

Application No.: 10/773,748

Docket No.: JCLA13023

REMARKS**Present Status of the Application**

The Applicant would like to thank the examiner for the review and examination of the application, and especially for the kindly allowance of claims 19 and 20.

The office action rejected Claims 1-3, 6, 11, and 13 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Brichard (US-3,399,047). The office action rejected Claims 1, 2, and 8 under U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Boettner (US-3,420,653). The office action rejected Claims 1, 2, 3, and 10 under U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sorg et al (US-5,573,569). The office action rejected Claims 1, 2, 8, 9, and 11 under U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Blumenfeld (US-4,662,927). The office action rejected Claims 1, 2, 4, and 12 under U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by or Russell (US-2,910,806).

Furthermore, Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brichard (US-3,399,047) in view of Muniz (US-5,613,994). Claims 14-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C.112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 19-20 are allowed.

Applicant has canceled claims 1-18 and added new claims 21-28. No new matter adds through the amendments. After entry of the foregoing amendments, Claims 19-28 remain pending in the present application.

Claim Rejections/Objections

Claims 1-18 have been canceled. The rejections/objections to claims 1-18 are moot.

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Claim Rejections/Objections

New claims 21-28 are dependent upon allowed Claim 19 or 20, therefore, they are allowable.

Claim 21 is supported by paragraph [0028]. Claim 22 is supported by paragraph [0027] and paragraph [0032]. Claim 23 is supported by paragraph [0034]. Claim 24 is supported by paragraph [0037]. Claim 25 is supported by paragraph [0039]. Claim 26 is supported by paragraph [0049]. Claim 27 is supported by paragraph [0053]. Claim 28 is supported by paragraph [0091].

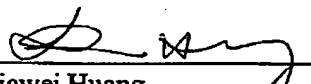
CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that all the pending claims 19-28 patentably define over the prior art and are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted,
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